

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 519**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Strickland**

February 18, 2003

---

An act to add Section 5072 to the Penal Code, relating to prisoner rehabilitation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 519, as introduced, Strickland. Imprisonment: rehabilitation: faith-based and morals-based program.

Under existing law, the Director of Corrections is charged with the supervision, management, and control of the state prisons, and is responsible for the care, custody, treatment, training, discipline, and employment of prisoners.

This bill would require the director to develop and implement a pilot program establishing a faith-based or morals-based rehabilitation program in the California prison system. It would require that the program allow inmates to choose between religious or secular options.

The bill would further require the director to compile and maintain data regarding rates of recidivism among program participants, and other data relevant to prisoner rehabilitation.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 5072 is added to the Penal Code, to read:
- 2 5072. (a) The Director of Corrections shall develop and
- 3 implement a pilot program establishing a faith-based or

1 morals-based rehabilitation program in the California prison  
2 system. The program shall allow inmates to choose between  
3 religious or secular options.

4 (b) The director shall compile and maintain data regarding  
5 rates of recidivism among program participants, and other data  
6 relevant to prisoner rehabilitation.

